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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

SINGH, RACHNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2003

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/328,607

Applicant(s)

ACHARYA ET AL.

Examiner

Rachna Singh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on April 7, 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 and 28-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 and 28-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>7</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: application, filed 6/9/99; amendment B filed 04/07/03.
2. Claims 1-24 and 28-35 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 17, 21, 28, 30, and 33 are independent claims.

Priority

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guenthner et al., US Patent 6,230,196, 5/8/01 in view of Rose, US Patent 6,085,199, 6/4/00.

In reference to independent claim 1, Guenthner teaches a method of dynamically generating a webpage in response from a client, the web page having a hypertext reference identifying a linked page supported on each of a set of other servers in a network. The hypertext reference links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. Compare to ***"displaying a multilink as a hyperlink, the multilink providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files, each of the plurality of files having a respective unique electronic address"***. See columns 6-8. Guenthner

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teaches that in response to the request, the routine seeks a plurality of HTML documents having links to the requested resource (a linked page or object). See figures 3 and 4. Guenthner's system teaches a hypertext reference that links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. The plurality of files from various servers are "associated" with the hypertext reference (compare to multilink) where the hypertext reference is displayed through a file interpretable to a browser. In other words, the hypertext link has multiple paths from which the requested source may be pulled. See column 4. Guenthner generates a menu of options from which a particular site is chosen; however, the menu of options is not presented on the client computer. Rose discloses a method of reporting multiple files in various formats for a single file in storage in a network file system. Rose teaches a "Directory" function which calls the file system to list all of the files in the directory upon coming across a file with multiple formats (compare to ***"generating a menu of options, at the client computer, in response to a user's selection of a multilink to a plurality of files"***). Rose teaches that in surfing the Internet, many files having a plurality of formats are available (i.e. an audio file can be available in a .wav format or .mid format). Rose's invention teaches a method in which the user is presented with a listing of the files indicating the format in which the file can be delivered from the server. Upon the user's selection of a particular format, the user judges which site or webpage to navigate to (compare to ***"transmitting, from the client computer, a request for a user-selected file associated with a user-selected option"***). See columns 1-6. Rose's invention does not mention a "multilink"; however, Applicant has defined multilink as "logical point of

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access to multiple files that is not directly related to a particular physical reference”.

Rose teaches using the directory as a method of reporting multiple virtual (no physical reference) files in various formats for a single native file. See abstract.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Guenthner with Rose as both are concerned with transmitting one of a plurality of links. It would have been obvious to combine Guenthner's multilink for providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files with Rose's directory function which calls to list all the files to the user since Guenthner does generate an internal directory of related links to the multilink. Modifying Guenthner with Rose so that the menu that is generated is actually present on the client computer would have been obvious since it provides the user with the ability to select from the links.

In reference to claim 2, Guenthner teaches a method in which each multilink is associated with a plurality of files. See columns 6-8.

In reference to claim 3, Rose teaches a method in which the user selects one of a variety of format options available upon which the appropriate file is transmitted. See columns 1-6. It would have been obvious to combine Guenthner's multilink for providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files with Rose's directory function which calls to list all the files to the user since Guenthner does generate an internal directory of related links to the multilink. Modifying Guenthner with Rose so that the menu that is generated is actually present on the client computer would have been obvious since it provides the user with the ability to select from the links.

In reference to claim 4, Guenthner teaches a method of dynamically generating a webpage in response from a client, the web page having a hypertext reference identifying a linked page supported on each of a set of other servers in a network. The hypertext reference links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. See column 6-8. In Rose's system, the server determines which format was chosen and downloads the selected file accordingly. See column 5. Both Rose and Guenthner teach identifying electronic addresses of user-selected files.

In reference to claim 5, Guenthner teaches a method of dynamically generating a webpage in response from a client, the web page having a hypertext reference identifying a linked page supported on each of a set of other servers in a network. The hypertext reference links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. The hypertext reference is analogous to a multilink URL. See column 6-8. Compare to "electronic addresses of the plurality of files are concatenated in a multilink URL".

In reference to claims 6 and 7, Guenthner teaches a method of dynamically generating a webpage in response from a client, the web page having a hypertext reference identifying a linked page supported on each of a set of other servers in a network. The hypertext reference links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. The hypertext reference is analogous to a multilink URL. Thus Guenthner teaches parsing a plurality of electronic addresses of a single multilink URL. The directory of options is generated by calling the file system to list all files and for each real file, creating an option. See figure 4 and column 5, lines 17-26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide an electronic address associated

with these files since they are located on a server. Moreover, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize a program to identify the files in the file system since a program is utilized to execute certain functions within a computer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Guenthner with Rose as both are concerned with transmitting one of a plurality of links. It would have been obvious to combine Guenthner's multilink for providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files with Rose's directory function which calls to list all the files to the user since Guenthner does generate an internal directory of related links to the multilink. Modifying Guenthner with Rose so that the menu that is generated is actually present on the client computer would have been obvious since it provides the user with the ability to select from the links.

6. Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guenthner et al., US Patent 6,230,196, 5/8/01 in view of Rose, US Patent 6,085,199, 6/4/00, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Airth, "Navigation in Pop-up Menus", pages 115-116, 1993.

In reference to claim 8, Guenthner generates a menu of options from which a particular site is chosen; however, the menu of options is not presented on the client computer; however, Rose discloses a method of reporting multiple files in various formats for a single file in storage in a network file system. Rose teaches a "Directory" function which calls the file system to list all of the files in the directory upon coming across a file with multiple formats (compare to ***"generating a menu of options, at the client computer, in response to a user's selection of a multilink to a plurality of***

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files”). Rose teaches that in surfing the Internet, many files having a plurality of formats are available (i.e. an audio file can be available in a .wav format or .mid format). Rose's invention teaches a method in which the user is presented with a listing of the files indicating the format in which the file can be delivered from the server. While Rose and Guenthner do not teach a pop-up display, Airth teaches that navigational pop-up menus were well known in the art at the time of the invention. See page 115. Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to present the menu of options as a pop-up display since Rose is displaying a plurality of options in menu format.

In reference to claim 9, Rose's invention teaches generating a list of menu options upon coming across a native single file with a plurality of files. Thus having a program associated with the list generation would have been obvious since Rose's system does call the file system to list all the files within the single native file.

In reference to claim 10, Rose teaches a method of calling the file system to list all the files for generating a directory of options. This step is performed prior to generating the directory. See figure 4. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Guenthner with Rose as both are concerned with transmitting one of a plurality of links. It would have been obvious to combine Guenthner's multilink for providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files with Rose's directory function which calls to list all the files to the user since Guenthner does generate an internal directory of related links to the multilink. Modifying Guenthner with Rose so that the menu that is generated is actually present on the client computer

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would have been obvious since it provides the user with the ability to select from the links.

7. Claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guenthner et al., US Patent 6,230,196, 5/8/01 in view of Rose, US Patent 6,085,199, 6/4/00 and Airth, "Navigation in Pop-up Menus", pages 115-116, 1993 and further in view of Foley et al., US Patent 5,706,502, 1/6/98.

In reference to claims 11 and 12, it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to utilize proxy computers within a network as a method of increasing performance. Thus transmitting a file containing a multilink URL to a proxy computer would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to save time and expedite requests for a multilink URL that identifies a plurality of files. Rose does not disclose appending the computer program to the file; however, Foley teaches a portfolio file including references to a set of project files. These project files can be local to the first computer or to a web page URL. Foley also teaches organizing executable programs into these portfolios. Foley's invention discloses that it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to import certain software programs to a file. See columns 2-4. Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to append the computer program to the file as taught by Foley to the system of generating a directory of files as taught by Guenthner and Rose since Foley's system allows a user to carry out various functions using program code such as the claimed generation of a menu.

In reference to claims 13 and 14, Foley teaches transmitting the file to the first computer (client computer). See columns 2-3. The rest of claims 13 and 14 are rejected under the rationale used above in reference to claims 11 and 12.

8. Claims 15-24 and 28-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guenthner et al., US Patent 6,230,196, 5/8/01 in view of Rose, US Patent 6,085,199, 6/4/00 and further in view of Foley et al., US Patent 5,706,502, 1/6/98.

In reference to claim 15, Rose's directory consists of hyperlinks associated with various file formats. See column 4.

In reference to claim 16, Rose teaches a single native file that is linked to a plurality of files in different formats, thus the menu of options comprises of a "multilink" in the sense that it contains a logical point of access to a plurality of links.

In reference to claims 17, 21, 28, and 30, Guenthner teaches a method of dynamically generating a webpage in response from a client, the web page having a hypertext reference identifying a linked page supported on each of a set of other servers in a network. The hypertext reference links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. Compare to **"displaying a multilink as a hyperlink, the multilink providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files, each of the plurality of files having a respective unique electronic address"**. See columns 6-8. Guenthner teaches that in response to the request, the routine seeks a plurality of HTML documents having links to the requested resource (a linked page or object). See figures 3 and 4. Guenthner's system teaches a hypertext reference that links to a plurality of

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files having different network addresses. The plurality of files from various servers are “associated” with the hypertext reference (compare to multilink) where the hypertext reference is displayed through a file interpretable to a browser. In other words, the hypertext link has multiple paths from which the requested source may be pulled. See column 4. Guenthner generates a menu of options from which a particular site is chosen; however, the menu of options is not presented on the client computer; however, Rose discloses a method of reporting multiple files in various formats for a single file in storage in a network file system. Rose teaches a “Directory” function which calls the file system to list all of the files in the directory upon coming across a file with multiple formats (compare to ***“generating a menu of options, at the client computer, in response to a user’s selection of a multilink to a plurality of files”***). Rose discloses a client computer for calling for a listing of all files in order to generate a directory. See rejection for claim 7 above. Rose does not teach appending the first computer program to a file transmitted by the servicing computer; however, Foley teaches a portfolio file including references to a set of project files. These project files can be local to the first computer or to a web page URL. Foley also teaches organizing executable programs into these portfolios. Foley’s invention discloses that it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to import certain software programs to a file. See columns 2-4. Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to append the computer program to another computer program as taught by Foley to the system of generating a directory of files as taught by

Guenthner and Rose since Foley's system allows a user to carry out various functions using program code such as the claimed generation of a menu.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Guenthner with Rose as both are concerned with transmitting one of a plurality of links. It would have been obvious to combine Guenthner's multilink for providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files with Rose's directory function which calls to list all the files to the user since Guenthner does generate an internal directory of related links to the multilink. Modifying Guenthner with Rose so that the menu that is generated is actually present on the client computer would have been obvious since it provides the user with the ability to select from the links.

In reference to claims 18 and 22, Foley's computer is implemented in a network environment which consists of a server. Thus assembling the programs from the components of various Internet nodes would be done on a server computer. See columns 1-4.

In reference to claims 19 and 23, it is well known in the art to utilize a proxy computer to expedite the request between a client and server computer thus using a proxy computer for relaying the communication would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

In reference to claims 20, 24, 29, and 31, Foley teaches a method in which the user can import certain software programs for execution with a file. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to append the

computer program to certain types of files such as those containing multilink URLs since the user can specify which files should have the computer program appended to them.

In reference to claim 32, Rose discloses a network server computer for accessing files and providing program execution to the individual computers. See column 1.

Claims 33-35 are rejected under the same rationale as claims 1, 5, and 7 respectively above.

Response to Arguments

9. Guenther teaches a method of dynamically generating a webpage in response from a client, the web page having a hypertext reference identifying a linked page supported on each of a set of other servers in a network. The hypertext reference links to a plurality of files having different network addresses. See rejections above.

Rose teaches a method for distributing a file in a plurality of different file formats by presenting the user with a menu of options for formats in which the file can be executed.

Applicant has amended claim 1, 17, 21, 28, 30, and 33 to indicate that each of the plurality of files have respective unique electronic addresses associated with the multilink in a file interpretable to display the multilink. Guenther's system teaches a hypertext reference that links to a plurality of files having different network addresses.

The plurality of files from various servers are "associated" with the hypertext reference (compare to multilink) where the hypertext reference is displayed through a file interpretable to a browser. In other words, the hypertext link has multiple paths from

which the requested source may be pulled. See column 4. Thus Examiner's rejection of the above claims are maintained.

In reference to claims 1-7, Applicant argues that Guenther does not reduce clutter in web pages by reducing the number of links, but instead causes clutter by causing a distinct hyperlink to be displayed for each linked file. Guenther teaches a system in which a page is supported by various servers. Instead of displaying the addresses from each server from which the page can be retrieved, Guenther teaches displaying one link associated with a plurality of files on different servers. Thus Guenther does reduce clutter caused by displaying various hyperlinks by condensing them into one hypertext reference (multilink). Applicant further argues that Guenther teaches associating one electronic address to a single hyperlink; however, as stated above, he teaches associating various servers with each link, thus he associates multiple electronic addresses. Rose teaches displaying a "menu of options" for multiple file formats. When taken in light of Guenther, it would have been obvious to combine Guenther's hypertext reference (compare to multilink) for providing a logical point of access to a plurality of files with Rose's directory function which calls to list all the files to the user since Guenther does generate an internal directory of related links to the multilink. Modifying Guenther with Rose so that the menu that is generated is actually present on the client computer would have been obvious since it provides the user with the ability to select from the links.

In reference to claims 8-10, Applicant has amended claim 8 to require a pop-up menu of options that no more than partially obscures a web page containing the

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multilink. As stated in the rejections above in claim 8, Airth teaches using pop-up displays. It was well known in the art at the time of the invention to utilize navigation pop-up menus as taught by Airth. See above rejection. In reference to claims 9 and 10, applicant argues that Rose's disclosure is not analogous to the menu of the present invention. When taken in view of Guenthner, Rose meets the limitations of claims 9 and 10, see rejections above.

Claims 11-16 are rejected for incorporating the deficiencies noted above.

Claims 17 and 21 are rejected under the same rationale used in claim 1 above.

Claims 18-20 and 22-24 are rejected for incorporating the deficiencies of claim 17 and 21 respectively above.

Claims 28-32 are rejected above. The rejection is maintained in view of comments and rejections above.

Claims 33-35 are rejected under the same rationale used in claims 28-32 above.

Conclusion

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachna Singh at 703.305.1952. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild, can be reached at 703.305.9792.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is 703.305.3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

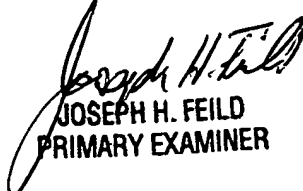
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Hand-Delivered responses should be brought to Crystal park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Rachna Singh
June 25, 2003


JOSEPH H. FEILD
PRIMARY EXAMINER